

## **Horse Sense and Survival**

### **Horse Watching Walking Tours on Shackleford Banks at Cape Lookout National Seashore in 2015**

Join the park ranger who monitors the wild horses for a glimpse into their world.

**RESERVE YOUR PLACE! Two steps are necessary:**

**FIRST:** Contact Cape Lookout Visitor Center, Harkers Island, (252) 728-2250 x 3001 or [calo\\_information@nps.gov](mailto:calo_information@nps.gov). We will answer your trip questions and take your tour reservation. Tell us that you have read or will read the two pages of trip information at <http://go.nps.gov/pxqou7>, (which may be below) or ask us to mail or email the information to you.

**SECOND:** Call Island Express Ferry Service at (252) 728-RIDE (7433) and reserve your place on the ferry. Tell them that you will be participating in the horse program. (Please don't reserve on-line because this is a special ferry trip.)

COST OF THE FERRY is \$15 for adults & \$8 for children (11 and under), payable at the time of the reservation; there is no fee for the program. A limited number of spaces are available. Reservations which are cancelled 48 hours or more ahead of the trip are refundable; to cancel a reservation, call BOTH the National Park Service and the Ferry Service. If conditions prevent the ferry from running refunds will be issued.

DEPARTURE will be from the CALO Visitor Center on Harkers Island (1800 Island Road, Harkers Island, NC 28531) or the CALO Visitor Information Center located in the Beaufort Town Hall (701 Front Street, Beaufort, NC 28516).

PARKING in Beaufort is advised from in front the Town Hall Visitor Information Center to the east toward Live Oak Street along Front Street. Watch for spot numbers at the rear of many spots and pay accordingly in kiosks on the sidewalks. Parking at the Harkers Island Visitor Center is free and in front of the Visitor Center.

DIFFICULTY is moderate. The horses roam far and wide so we'll be walking to find them. We will be climbing dune hills, walking in loose sand, ducking through shrubs and winding through prickly needlerush. Trips from Harkers Island will likely include wading in salt water to our knees and slogging through heavy black marsh mud to our ankles. We walk at a moderate pace and then stand or sit to watch the horses. In summer, be prepared for very high heat indexes – dress in loose fitting clothes and bring extra water. In autumn if it's cold we'll do our best not to get wet. There are ticks on the island, so take normal precautions including a tick check when you get home.

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AMENITIES at Shackleford Banks include toilets without washing facilities that Beaufort travelers may pass by on our walk. Harkers Island travelers will find no toilets but many bushes on Shackleford Banks. The first few steps off and to the boat may include wading. Beaufort trips may use the dock's vertical ladder to unload and load the boat.

BAD WEATHER will only stop us if the ferry does not run. To check ferry status, you may call the ferry after 7 am the day of the trip.

FOOTWEAR. Closed toe walking shoes are necessary to protect your feet from cacti, sand spurs and oysters. See the advisories about mud and salt water. We advise bringing a change of socks and shoes for the drive home.

#### **REMEMBER TO BRING:**

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| — water, drinks in re-closeable bottles  | — sunscreen   |
| — lunch & snacks   | — bug repellent (and do a tick check afterwards)  |
| — sturdy closed-toe walking shoes that can get wet, salty & dirty and will protect from cactus, sand spurs & sharp oysters (please, no flip-flops) | — binoculars  |
| — rain jacket (also for spray in the boat)   | — camera with zoom lens   |
| — hat  | — daypack/shoulder bag to carry your items (hard sided coolers are too cumbersome to carry) |
|  | — a change of socks & shoes for the drive home  |

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#### **Schedule**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Departure Location</b>	<b>Shackleford Destination</b>	<b>Meet Time</b>	<b>Depart Time</b>	<b>Re- Board</b>	<b>Program End</b>
June	Sat.	27	Beaufort	West end	8:45 am	9 am	1 pm	1:30 pm
July	Sat.	11	Harkers Island	East end	8 am	8:15 am	Approx. 12:15 pm	12:45 pm
Sept.	Sat.	12	Harkers Island	East end	10 am	10:15 am	Approx. 2:15 pm	2:45 pm
Oct.	Sat.	10	Harkers Island	East end	10 am	10:15 am	Approx. 1:45 pm	2:15 pm
Oct.	Sun.	25	Harkers Island	East end	9 am	9:15 am	Approx. 12:45 pm	1:15 pm
Nov.	Thurs.	19	Beaufort	West end	8:45 am	9 am	12:30 pm	1:00 pm
Nov.	Sun.	22	Beaufort	West end	8:45 am	9 am	1:30 pm	2:00 pm